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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY

Rumania

DATE DISTR. 2 September 1952

SUBJECT

Ministry of Light Industry, Bucharest

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DATE OF INFO.

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- The Ministry of Light Industry is part of the former Ministry of Trade and Industry and was created to control the production of textiles, leather and rubber goods, glassware and the like. It is located in Calea, Bursei, Bucharest.
- 2. The light industries' workers are 60 percent women. The majority of the workers in spinning, weaving and knitting mills are women, the tendency being to replace as many workers as possible with women. In 1951 the whole light industry employed 160,000 persons. Fourteen percent were clerical employees and ten percent of the technical workers were foremen and mechanics.
- 3. Working norms are so high that most workers rarely reach them. Wages are reduced proportionately and the workers tend to move from one factory to another in search of better conditions. To prevent this, a law similar to the Soviet law of 1938 was published in January 1952, which imposes severe punishment on workers who migrate in this way. Every effort is made to keep workers at the same factory and even at the same machine for a period of years. Workers who are late are fined up to 25 percent of their pay.
- 4. The Industrial Plants Branch of the Ministry controls 30 stations, most of which are in the Danube area such as Calafat and Turnu-Severin. At these stations cotton, hemp and flax are cultivated and processed. The work of this branch has been a failure because the plans were not submitted to the Planning Commission in time and therefore no funds were made available. Only small fields were cultivated whose output was 10 to 15 percent of the planned harvest. As wages were paid according to output, workers left the fields and many were arrested and charged with sabotage.

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- 5. At the Gheorghiu-Dej Ready-Made-Clothing Factory in Bucharest-Cotroceni, 5,000 workers are employed to produce Army uniforms in mass production by the conveyor belt method. As workers are underpaid, they stay away from the factory and on some days the entire machinery comes to a standstill.
- 6. Nearly all the light industry plans are below the planned amount except the one for toys and production goods, which was exceeded by 25 to 30 percent. This is due to the fact that the goods were produced from iron, tin, textile and leather scraps and remnants from other factories.
- 7. Following is a partial list of officers of the Ministry of Light Industry:

a.	Horatiu Atanasiu, Deputy Minister.	25X1
		25X1
b.	Acatie, Deputy Director	25X1 25X1
c.	Manoliu, Head of the Costing Section	25X1 25X1
d.	Roze Alfred, Head of the Labor and Wages Department	25X1 25X1

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